

A HISTORY
OF THE
Catholic Sailors' Club

MONTREAL

Founded in 1893.
Incorporated in the year
1900 by Act of the
Legislature of the
Province of Quebec 63
Victoria Chap. 103

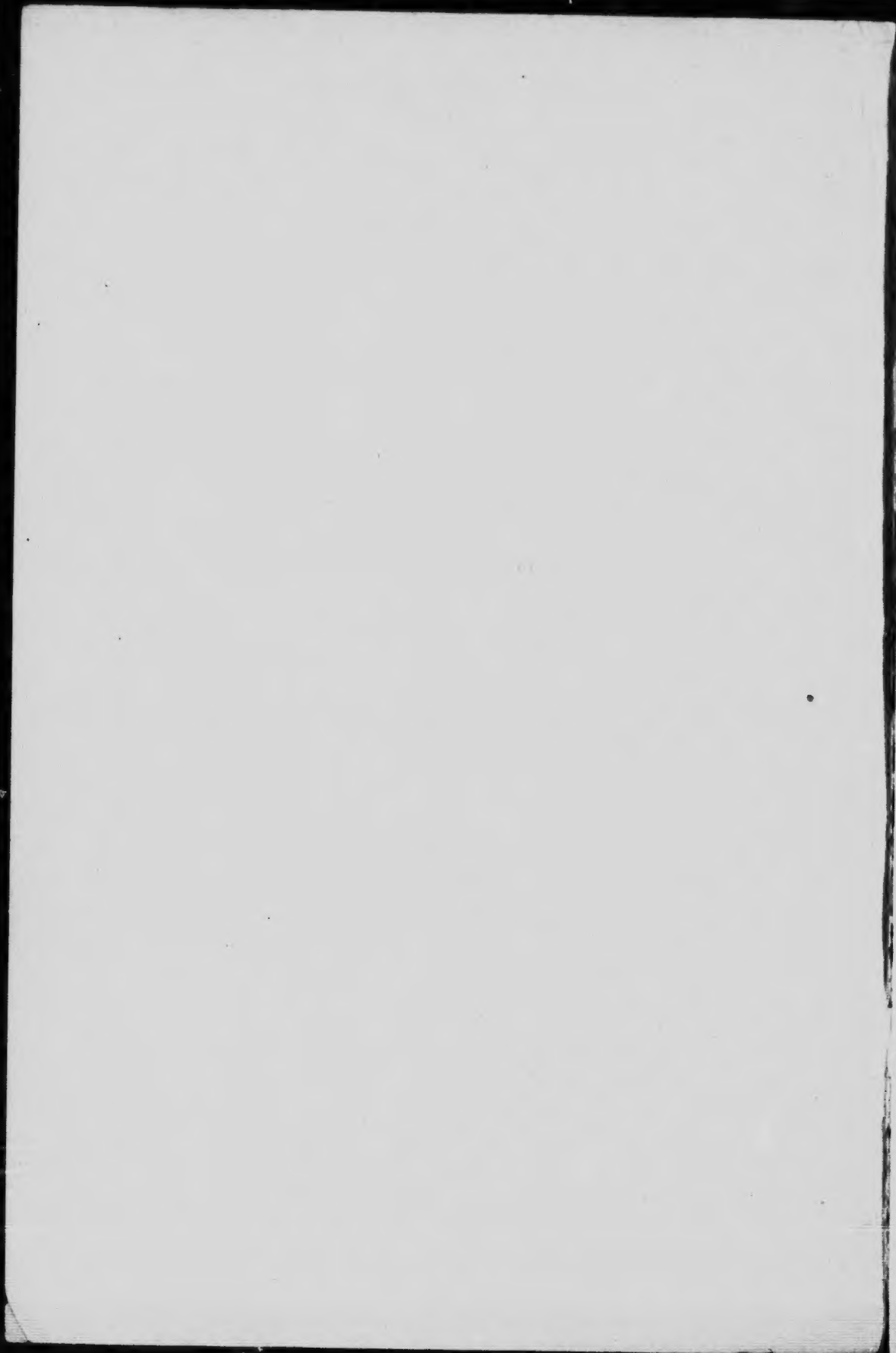


Being a Synopsis
OF
**Twenty-Five Years of
Work for Seamen**

From the
Silver Jubilee Number
Season of 1917 ∴ Twenty-Second Published Report

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"TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF WORK FOR SEAMEN"

A Synopsis of the History of the Catholic Sailors' Club of Montreal.

1893—January.

The need of special treatment for the numerous Catholic seamen of diverse nationalities visiting the Port, urged by the Catholic Truth Society (Montreal Branch, men, founded in 1892). Plans made, and on Good Friday a Ladies' Committee invited to secure finances.

May 18.

Garret (hired), 300 St. Paul Street (now 18E), corner of St. Jean Baptiste, opened to receive sailors.

May 30.

Formal inauguration under the auspices of the C.T.S., with a Ladies' Committee.

Weekly (Thursday) Concerts begin.

RE-ORGANIZATION.

1896—March.

Ladies' Board assumes the management; an Advisory Board of gentlemen (Guarantors) added.

New location (the present site) a disused factory rented from the "Grey Nuns" on the corner of St. Peter and Common Streets (formerly part of the old "Common" of Ville Marie, 1642).

Weekly concerts held in the present billiard room.

1897.

Club Burial Plots at Côte des Neiges inaugurated. First Formal "Parish" Concert by St. Anthony's.

1898.

First Sunday Mass in the Reading Room (June 26).

Weekly concerts now held on Wednesdays.

INCORPORATION.

1900.

Club incorporated (S. Q. 63 Victoria, Chap. 103). First Formal Fraternal Association Concerts (6) given by Foresters (C.O.F.).

1901.

Queen Victoria died—The Club sent, through the Governor-General, an expression of condolence to the Royal Family.

1903.

Present building purchased; first instalment paid.

1905.

New Concert Hall (annex on St. Peter Street) inaugurated at the opening of navigation. "Sailors' Memorial Fund" initiated and since supported solely by the sailors themselves.

1909.

The Club rooms loaned during the winter to St. Patrick's A.A.A. (afterwards amalgamated with the Shamrock A.A.A.) before it secured its permanent home at St. Urbain Street.

1910.

EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS. At the weekly Sailors' Concert (Wednesday, September 7), a great gathering of distinguished delegates were present to hear the Rev. Bernard Vaughan, S.J., address the sailors. This fall, active steps were taken to form an International Federation of Sailor Clubs for Catholics.

1913.

The mortgage on the present building paid. Further Building Fund started. Life Governorships established. A Board of Directors formed (the Advisory Board being discontinued).

(The new organ was installed in the Chapel (dedicated by Canada Council, Knights of Columbus, November, 1917.)

1914.—May 29.

The "Empress of Ireland" (C.P.R.) sank off Rimouski, Que.

The Managers of both Sailors' Institutions of Montreal were invited to supervise at Quebec the identification of dead seamen and to direct the solemn public funeral of the victims.)

August 4.

THE GREAT INTERNATIONAL WAR DECLARED.

History can never forget the part since played by the Navy and the Mercantile Marine.

1915.—May.

New Grand Piano installed, previously used for the first time on March 17; for the John McCormack recital organized at Windsor Hall by St. Patrick's Society.

September 8.

Special Concert given at the Club for the Canadian Patriotic Fund.

1916.

Co-operation in the organization of the British Sailors' Relief Fund. Both Sailors' Institutions contributed typical "Sailors' Concerts" at the "Sailors' Week" celebrations,

held at Dominion Park in September for this Fund.
Club officially represented at the Great Naval Celebration
(Dominion Square) of the Battle of Jutland.

1917.

Co-operation in the foundation of the "Canadian Royal
Navy Reserve" and "Navy League of Canada," and in the
Great Victory Loan Parade (of Montreal), in which both
Sailors' Institutions jointly provided striking Sailor Floats,
inscribed:

"LEST WE FORGET the Merchant Marine."

OFFICERS SINCE FOUNDATION (1893-1918.)

PRESIDENTS (Before Incorporation).

1893-6 (Catholic Truth Society), President, J. H. Feeley.

Convenor of Ladies' Committee, Mrs. M. (Lady) Hingston.

1896-1900 (Ladies' Board), Lady Hingston, President.

Vice-Presidents, Mrs. F. B. McNamee and Mrs. J. P. B. Casgrain.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. S. R. Thomson.

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer (1901-13), Miss Flora Macdonnell.

From 1900 to 1918 the same Ladies' Board remained in office.

PRESIDENTS (Since Incorporation).

F. B. McNamee 1900

Patrick Wright 1901

(F. B. McNamee, Honorary President.)

F. B. McNamee (President)..... 1902-06

Felix Casey 1907-08

Chas. F. Smith..... 1909-11

Commander J. T. Walsh, R.N.R..... 1911-18

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Patrick Wright 1900

Bernard McNally 1900-03

Felix Casey 1901

Frank Green 1902

Chas. F. Smith 1903

F. J. Hackett, M.D. 1903-18

Hon. Justice J. J. Curran, K.C. 1909

HONORARY TREASURERS.

Chas. F. Smith 1900-02

Bernard McNally 1903-18

HONORARY SECRETARIES.

W. H. Cox, N.P. 1900-01

M. A. Phelan, K.C. 1902-18

CHAPLAINS.

Rev. A. E. Jones, S.J. 1893-95

Rev. E. J. Devine,* S. J., 1896, 1896, 1904, 1912-18.

Rev. Isidore Kavanagh, S.J. .. 1899, 1900, 1909-10

Rev. A. Larue, S.J. 1901

Rev. A. Gagnieur, S.J. 1901-02

Rev. John Coffey, S.J. 1903

Rev. Timothy Malone, S.J. 1905-06

Rev. Nicholas Quirk, S.J. 1907-08

Rev. Thomas Gorman, S.J. 1911

Rev. Lewis Drummond, S.J. 1912

MANAGER.

W. H. Atherton, Ph.D., LL.D., Litt.D. (Laval) 1908-18.

* Chaplain of the C.T.S., 1892.

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OUR AIM FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS HAS BEEN:

1. To welcome to our midst a large body of seamen, of divers nationalities, who yearly bring into the Port of Montreal trade and settlers to the country; and to afford them, while with us, a bright and homelike resort under uplifting influences.

2. To encourage the sailors while on shore to be self-respecting, to observe law and order, to save their money and avoid the temptations of a great city; and in particular to advocate temperance.

3. To attain this aim, we would have the seaman make use of our rooms as his headquarters, free of charge, so that when released from the duties of his ship, they shall be his home, his club to meet his friends from other ships, his library, his reading and writing rooms, his post office and savings bank and his place of entertainment and recreation, in the form of games, lectures and concerts, etc.

4. While all seamen of every nationality and creed are welcome to use the benefits of the Club, we especially encourage the Catholic seaman to attend to the duties of his religion, providing him with his own oratory and his own chaplain.

5. Finally, to visit the sick and injured seamen when in hospital and to bury the dead honorably in the Club's portion of the Cemetery at Côte des Neiges.

OUR NEEDS.

Your charitable sympathy and personal service in our cause, your visits to our rooms and your presence at our weekly concerts; good literature, illustrated papers and magazines for the reading rooms and to be made into bundles to be taken to the ships on the eve of sailing; clothing, especially boots and trousers; games and articles of furniture for the reading and recreation rooms; old carpets to be cut up into hand protectors for the firemen; "ditty" bags containing sewing necessities, etc., for Jack aboard; an increase of members and subscribers to carry on the good work, to pay our debts and to make necessary improvements. *Remembrance on your charity list and in your will. A new building is necessary.*

N.B.—An ordinary member is one who pays a minimum subscription of \$1.00.

A life member is the donor of a subscription of \$100.

A life governor is an elected life member, who in addition contributes an annual subscription of \$5.00 or more.

LEST WE FORGET THE MERCANTILE MARINE

SUBSCRIPTIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1 Ordinary subscribers: Not less than \$1.00.
- 2 Life members: \$100.00 at one donation, eligible as Life Governors.
- 3 Life Governors, elected from Life Members: With annual Subscription of not less than \$5.00; eligible as Directors.

To the Hon. Treasurer,

Catholic Sailors' Club of Montreal

Please find enclosed the sum of \$.....

(State if by cheque or otherwise.)

being subscription.....

for the Season of 19.....

Name.....

Address.....

To the Hon. Treasurer,

Catholic Sailors' Club

51 COMMON STREET

(Corner of St. Peter and Common Streets
MONTREAL

Cheques should be made out to the "Catholic Sailors' Club, Montreal," and mailed to the Treasurer as indicated.